

To: Dane County Planning and Development Office
Dane County Zoning and Land Regulation Committee

From: Susan and Jim Fiore, 3256 Timber Lane
Tom and Bonnie Wise, 3254 Timber Lane

Date: Sept 8, 2014

Statement of Purpose

We are long-time neighbors who live on adjacent home sites. We are applying for approval of two certified survey maps to facilitate the donation of part of our land to the Ice Age Trail Alliance, a nationally certified land trust. If approved, our donated land, approximately thirty acres, would be added to the Valley View segment of the Ice Age Trail that abuts our properties. We are doing this as part of our estate planning to protect land in the County which has special qualities and features (briefly described below and in supplementary documents) and for the public good. The plan includes donation of the entire properties excluding retention of one 2.5 acre lot and one 3.5 acre lot surrounding the two existing homesteads. (See Certified Survey Maps).

Both parcels have received grants by state and federal agencies to preserve biological and geographical features:

- * Both Wise parcels received a state managed Landowner Incentive Program (LIP) grant jointly with the Ice Age Trail Alliance for enhancement of Oak Savanna habitat.
- * The Fiore parcel received an Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) grant from the U.S. Department of Agriculture Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- * The Fiore parcel received a grant from the DNR Wisconsin Forest Landowner Grant Program (WFLGP).

The properties include a diverse mix of oak savanna, oak woodlands and prairie as well as distinctive topography. Glacial and other topographic features can be interpreted, and there is potential for over a mile of hiking trails that would connect to the Ice Age Trail and to the Noll Valley Conservancy town park to the north.

The property inventory submitted with this application includes:

- * 133+ species of plants. This does not include prairie varieties, which have not yet been inventoried. The plant inventory is a work in progress, and is likely to reach 150 - 200 species after a serious search.

- * 49 species of birds
- * 16 species of mammals
- * 4 species of reptile/amphibian

Requested action:

Because there will be no new construction or any change in land use resulting from this donation we ask the County to approve these certified survey maps.

Thank you for your consideration.

Susan and Jim Fiore




Tom and Bonnie Wise


